

media release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2019

Franklin County Recognizes #EverydayOhioHeroes Campaign for Child Abuse Prevention Month

COLUMBUS, OHIO – April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Franklin County Children Services encourages all residents to join the Ohio Children's Trust Fund's #EverydayOhioHeroes campaign to recognize everyday heroes who make our community a safe place for families and children.

In Ohio, everyday heroes such as parents, family members, educators, service providers, public officials and faith-based organizations share the responsibility to protect our youth. All of us play a critical role in ensuring that children are safe and can grow up without fear of abuse and neglect to realize their full potential.

"Adverse childhood experiences such as child abuse and neglect have the potential to negatively impact one's mental and physical health across the course of a lifespan," said Lindsay Williams, Executive Director of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund. "Research has suggested that these negative impacts may be substantially reduced for individuals who have at least one trusted adult supporter, a hero, during their childhood."

This April, the Ohio's Children's Trust Fund and Franklin County Children Services encourage everyone in the community to "Be a Hero in the Eyes of Child – one simple act of encouragement at a time."

FCCS will be presenting PSAs in the media throughout April, host our annual Child Abuse Prevention Breakfast on April 10 at The Boathouse, and work with the Center for Family Safety and Healing on local trainings. The need is also great for new Franklin County Foster Care parents.

April 10 is also Wear Blue Day in Ohio and all public children services agencies are asking you to wear blue in support of child abuse prevention. We will feature some of your photos on our Facebook page. Send them via email to fccsoutreach@fccs.us.

For more information about child abuse prevention programs and activities in your community, visit **octf.ohio.gov**. To report suspected child abuse or neglect in Franklin County, call our 24-hour hotline at (614) 229-7100. For more information see our website at **childrenservices.franklincountyohio.gov**. To learn more about Foster Care trainings, call (614) 275-2711.





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